



FEMA

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a ***Regional*** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh and click on the "Weather Forecast Offices" tab and click on the map for your area.

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Monday, March 12, 2018

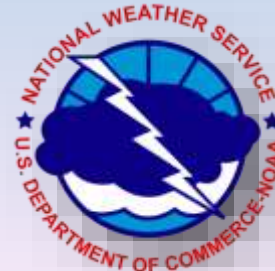
Issued: 0800 CT

Moderate to major flooding continues on the Ouachita River, MS River and Atchafalaya River.

Minor to moderate flooding continues in E TX, LA and AR and rivers will continue to recede.

No significant weather is expected today.

National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX



**Prepared by: Felecia Bowser
817-978-1100 x 147**

Key Points



Today through Friday

- No significant weather expected through Wednesday.
- Critical fire weather conditions may return to E NM, W TX and Davis and Guadalupe Mountains by Wednesday and into Friday.
- Light Snow possible over NM on Thursday.

River Flood Status

- Minor to moderate flooding continues in E TX, LA and AR and rivers will continue to recede.
- The Ouachita River is near crest at Felsenthal Lock and Dam in AR. The Ouachita River at Columbia Lock & Dam in LA is not expected to crest until 3/17.
- The crest on the MS River is just upriver of Arkansas City, AR. The flood wave will continue to move downstream in the coming weeks.
- The Atchafalaya River continues to rise; the crest at Morgan City is expected to reach moderate flood stage on 3/23.

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 12, 2018 through Mar 16, 2018

| DAY / THREAT | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-----|-----|---|---|
| Severe Storms | | | | | |
| Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding | | | | | |
| Fire Weather | | | | NM, W TX, Davis & Guadalupe Mountains | NM, W TX, Davis & Guadalupe Mountains |
| Winter | | | | NM | |
| River Flooding | E & S AR, N, E & SE LA | | | | |
| | E TX, LA, AR | | | | |

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| | No Weather Threats Expected |
| | Very Common – Happens Often |
| | Common – Happens Frequently |
| | Uncommon – A Few Times a Year |
| | Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years |
| | Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years |

For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.



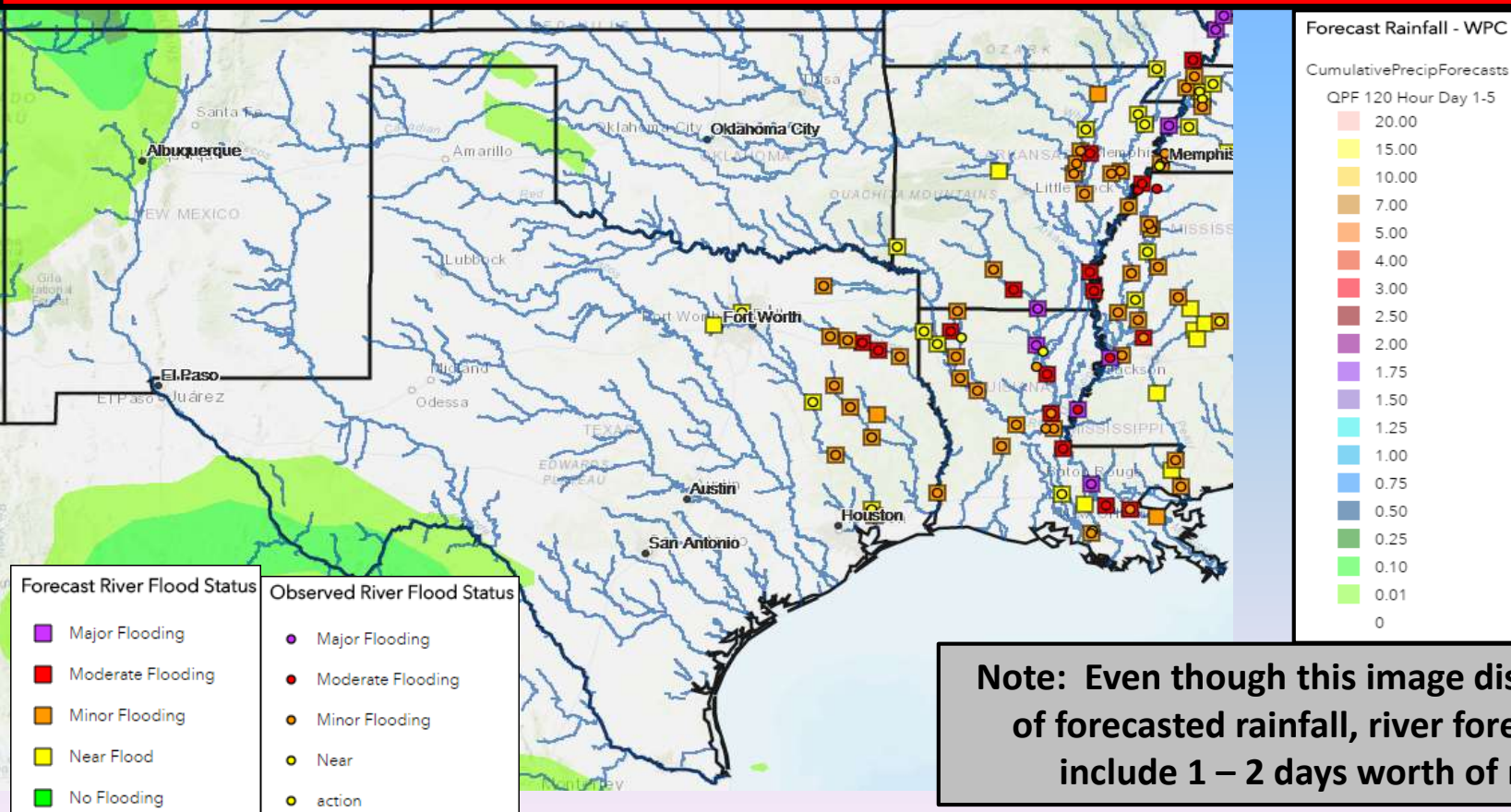
5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

Minor to moderate flooding continues in E TX, LA and AR and rivers will continue to recede.

The Ouachita River is near crest at Felsenthal L&D in AR. The Ouachita River at Columbia Lock & Dam in LA is not expected to crest until 3/17.

The crest on the MS River is just upriver of Arkansas City, AR. The flood wave will continue to move downstream in the coming weeks.

The Atchafalaya River continues to rise; the crest at Morgan City is expected to reach moderate flood stage on 3/23.



Note: Even though this image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1 – 2 days worth of rainfall.

See <http://water.weather.gov/ahps> for the latest on river flooding

Latest on the Mississippi River

From Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center



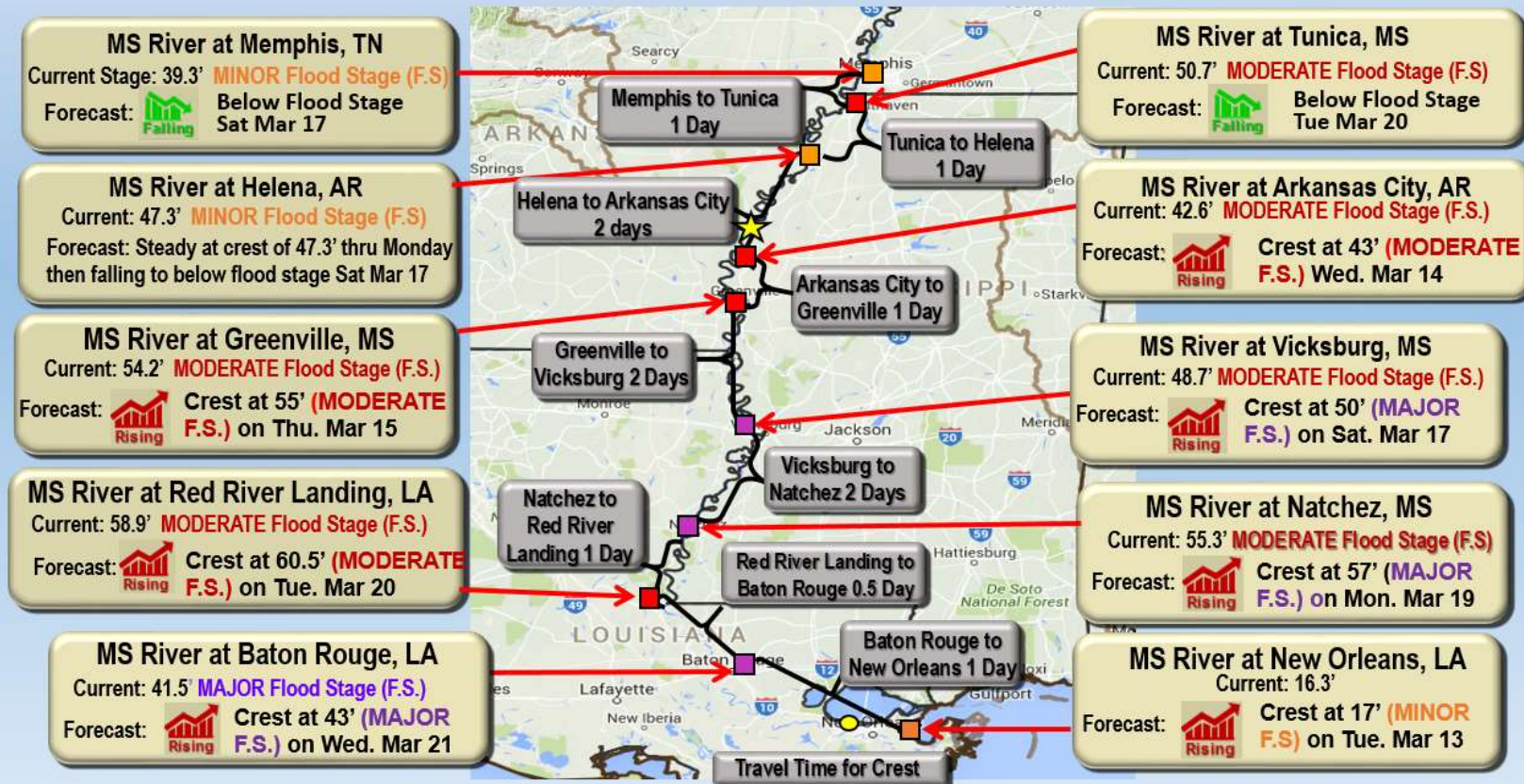
Mississippi River Crest Watch

Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center

Crests and LMRFC forecasts produced
morning of March 11, 2018

f NWSLMRFC

@NWSLMRFC



Location of Mississippi River Crest Today



Forecast Assumes operation at Bonnet Carré

Latest on the Atchafalaya River

From Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center



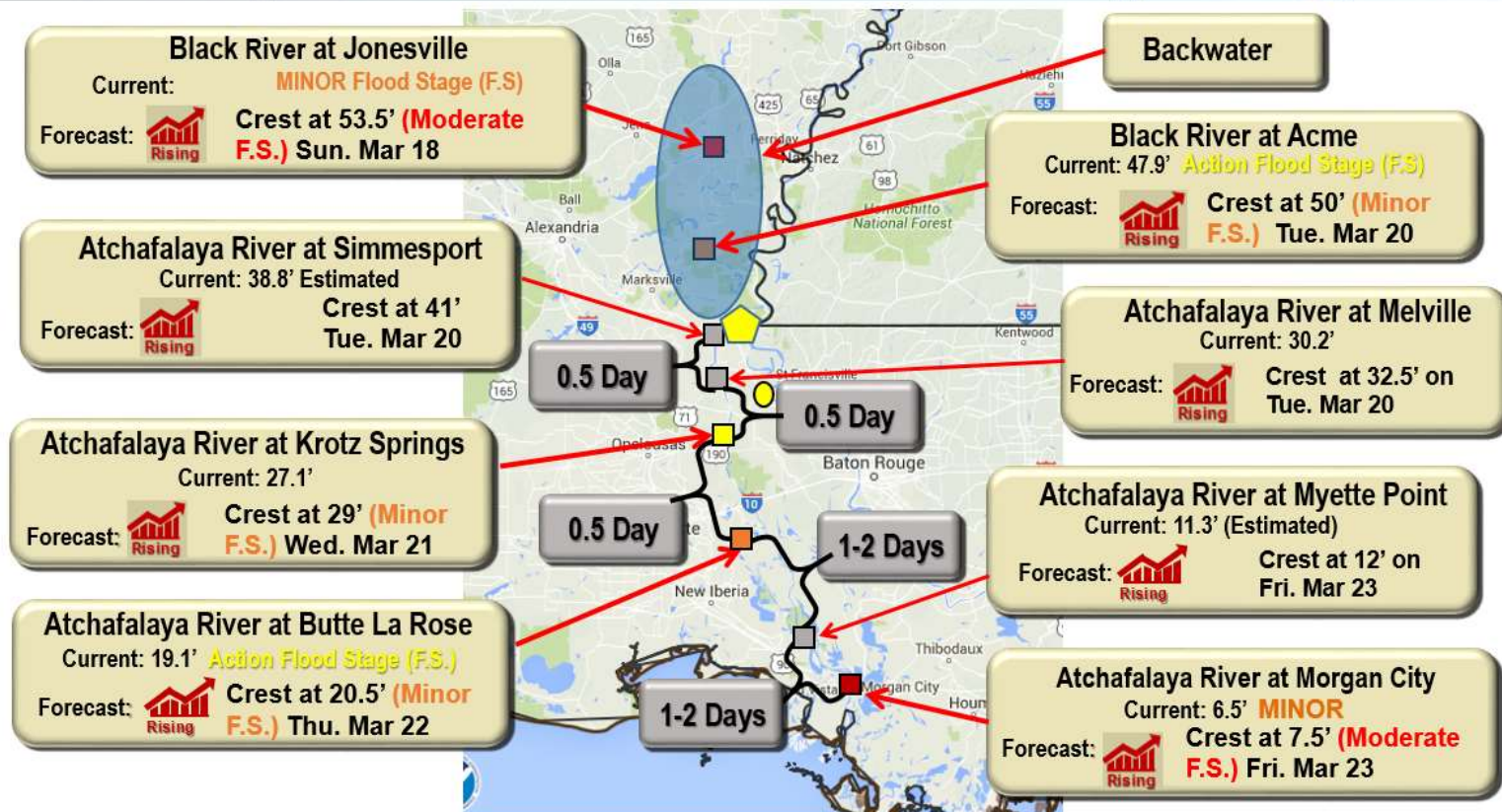
Atchafalaya River Crest Watch

Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center

Crests and LMRFC forecasts produced
morning of March 11, 2018

f NWSLMRFC

@NWSLMRFC



Old River Control Structure
 Forecast assumes no operation at Morganza

Backwater - Water moving upstream from Old River Control Structure

Latest on the Ouachita River

From Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center



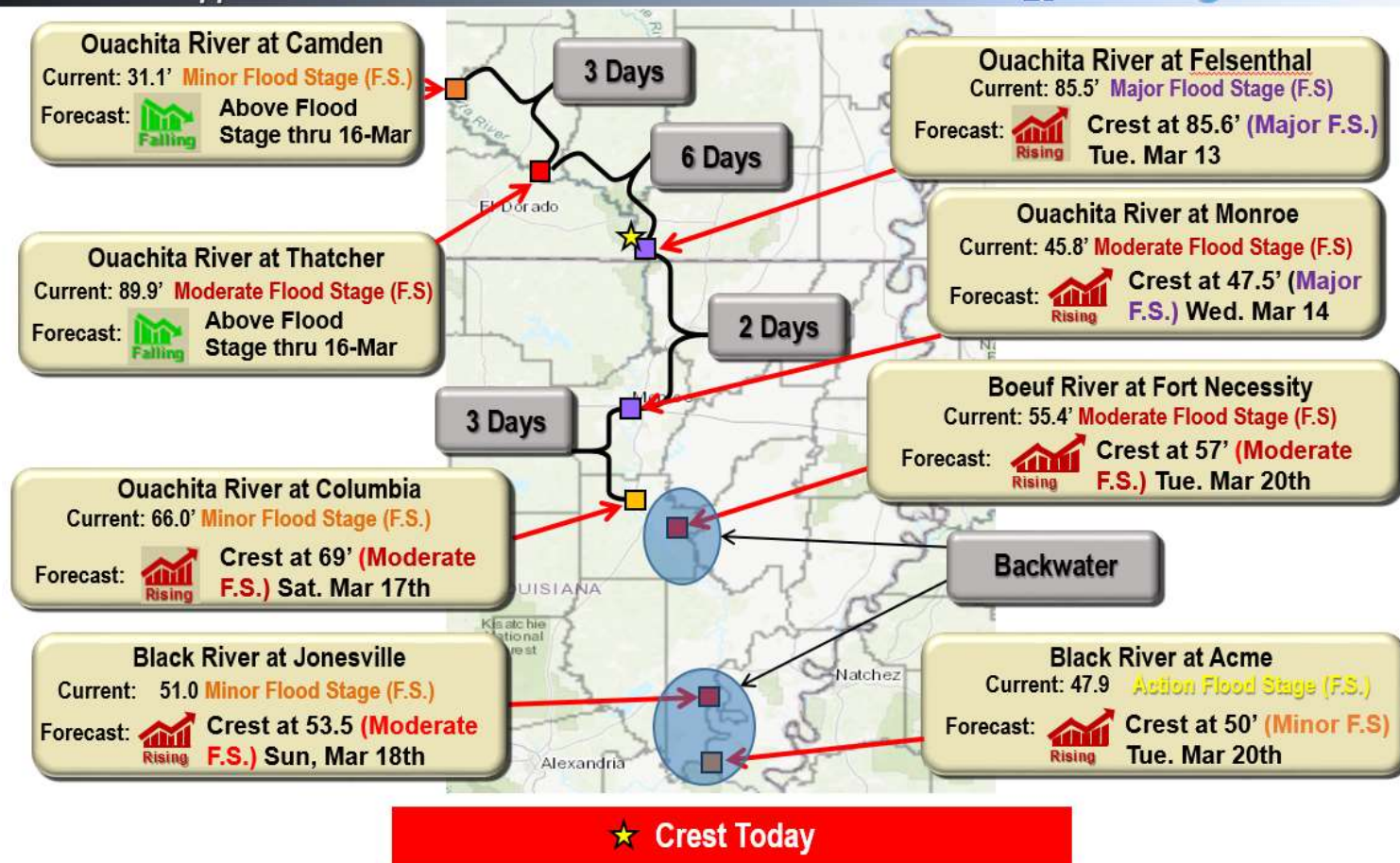
Ouachita River Crest Watch

Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center

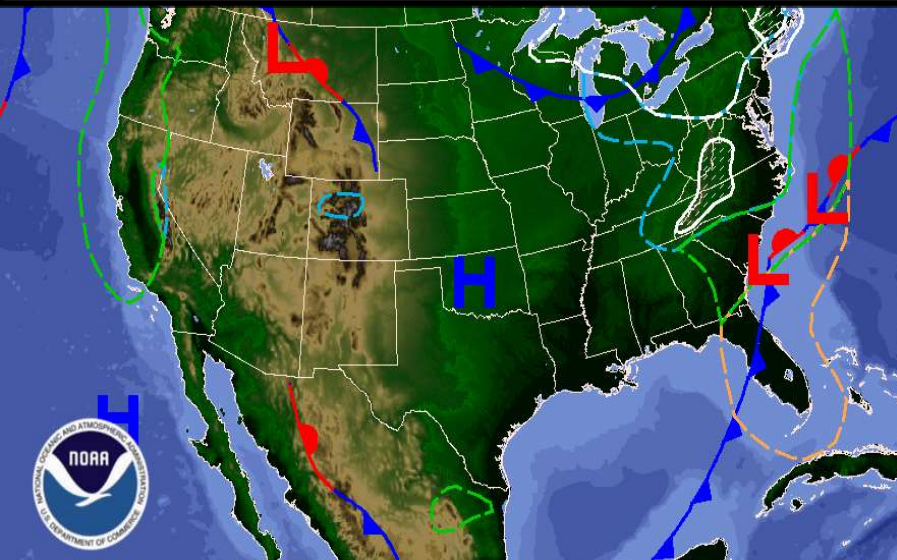
Crests and LMRFC forecasts
produced morning of March 11, 2018

f NWSLMRFC

@NWSLMRFC



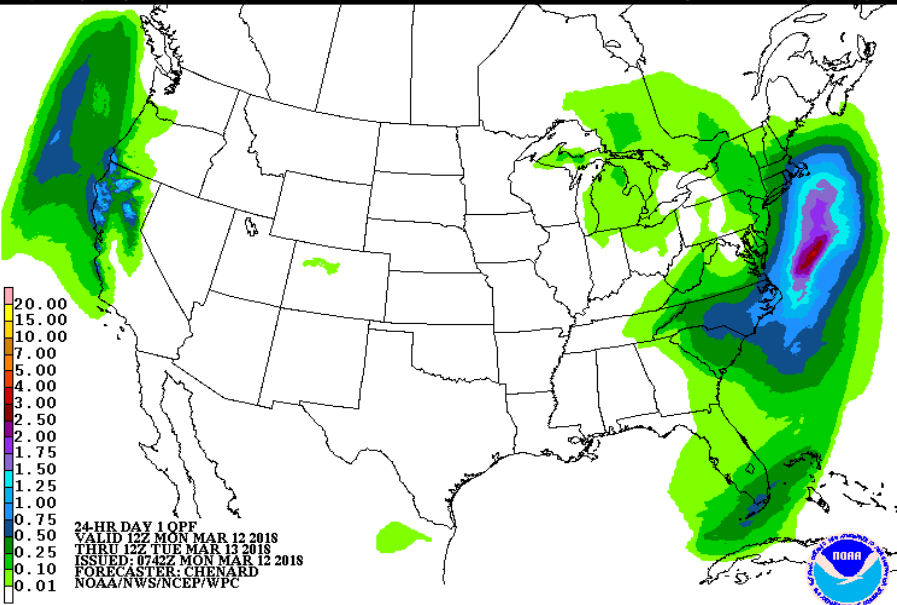
Today's Weather



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Mon, Mar 12, 2018, issued 4:43 AM EDT
 DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
 Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
 Rain and T'Storms
 Rain and Snow
 Snow
 Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
 Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
 Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
 Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



Moderate to major flooding continues on the Ouachita River, MS River and Atchafalaya River.

Minor to moderate flooding will continue in E TX, LA and AR but rivers will continue to slowly recede.

No significant weather expected.

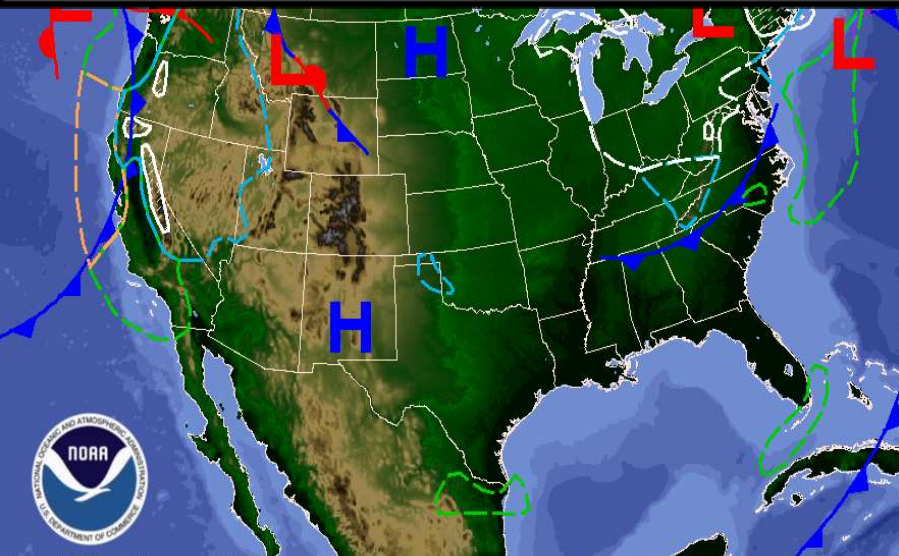
Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 6

Severe Weather Outlook Monday, March 12, 2018

Last Updated: Mar 11 2018 11:47 PM CDT
 Valid Until: Mar 12 2018 07:00 AM CDT



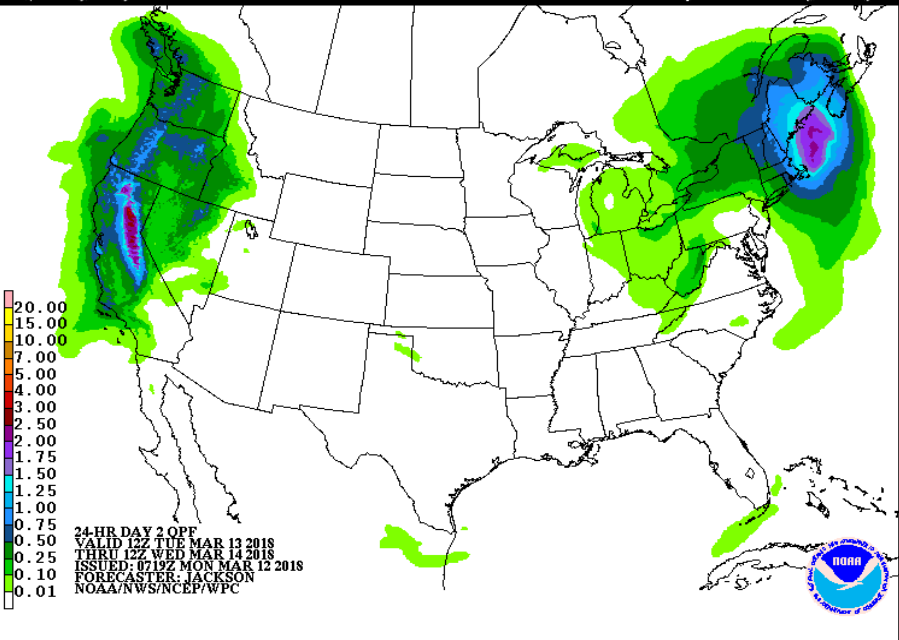
Tomorrow's Weather



Day 2 National Forecast Chart

Valid Tue, Mar 13, 2018, issued 4:49 AM EDT Mon, Mar 12, 2018
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

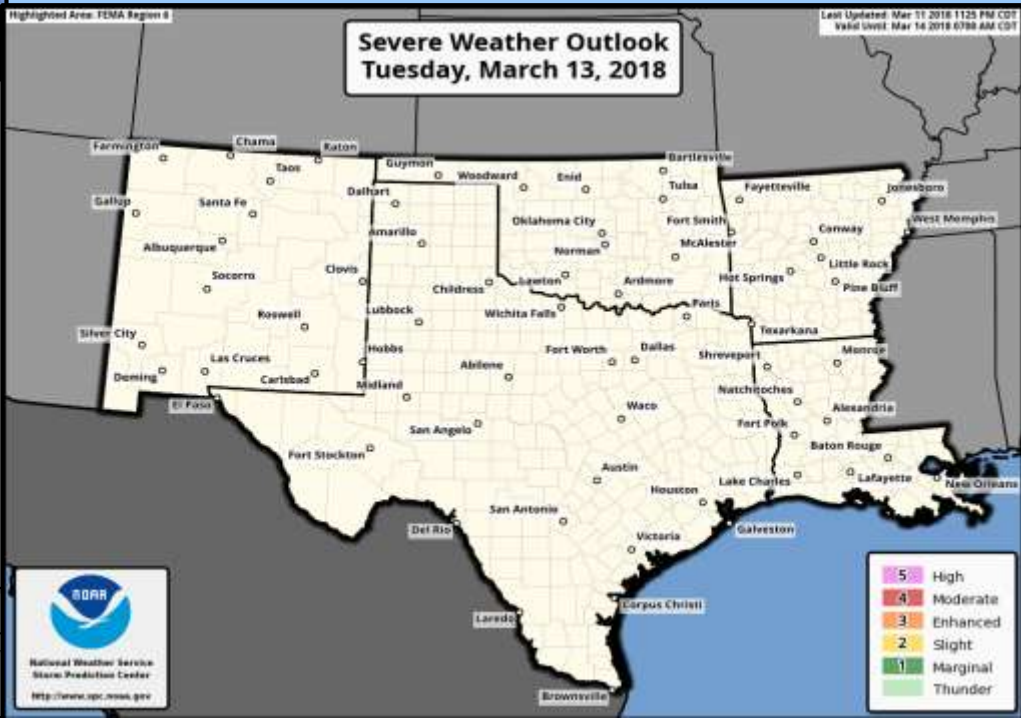


24-HR DAY 2 OPF
VALID 12Z TUE MAR 13 2018
THRU 12Z WED MAR 14 2018
ISSUED: 0719Z MON MAR 12 2018
FORECASTER: JACKSON
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Moderate to major flooding continues on the Ouachita River, MS River and Atchafalaya River.

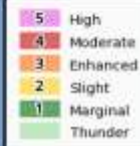
Minor to moderate flooding will continue in E TX, LA and AR but rivers will continue to slowly recede.

No significant weather expected.

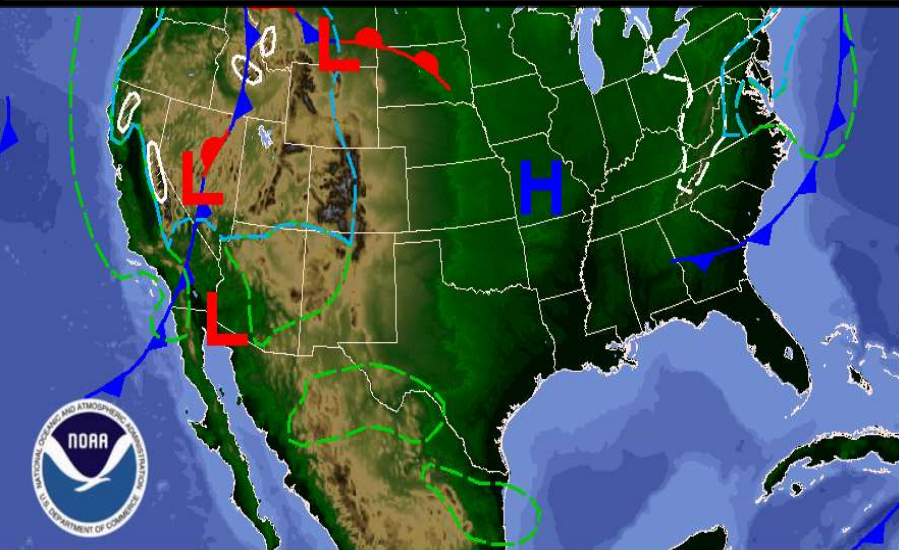


Severe Weather Outlook Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Last Updated: Mar 11 2018 11:25 PM CDT
Valid Until: Mar 14 2018 07:00 AM CDT



Wednesday's Weather



Moderate to major flooding continues on the Ouachita River, MS River and Atchafalaya River.

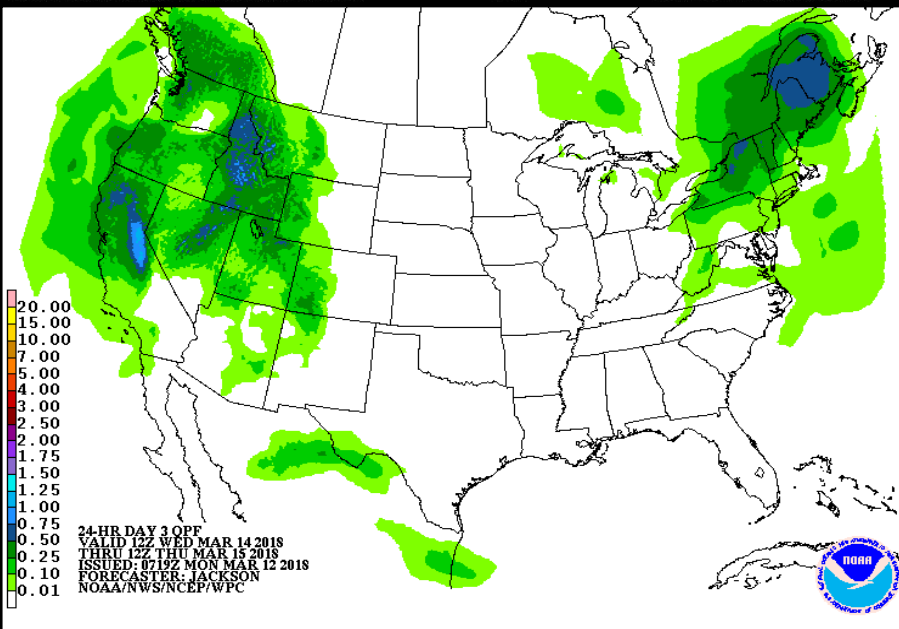
Minor to moderate flooding will continue in E TX, LA and AR but rivers will continue to slowly recede.

No significant weather expected.

Day 3 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Mar 14, 2018, issued 4:52 AM EDT Mon, Mar 12, 2018
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

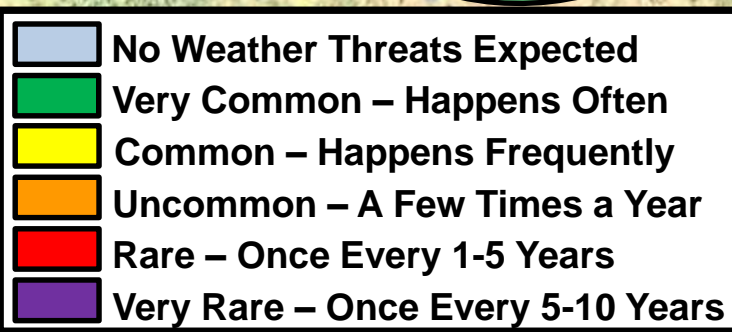


Day 4-5 Weather Hazards

Thursday - Friday



**Critical fire
weather
conditions look
to return
Thursday into
the weekend**

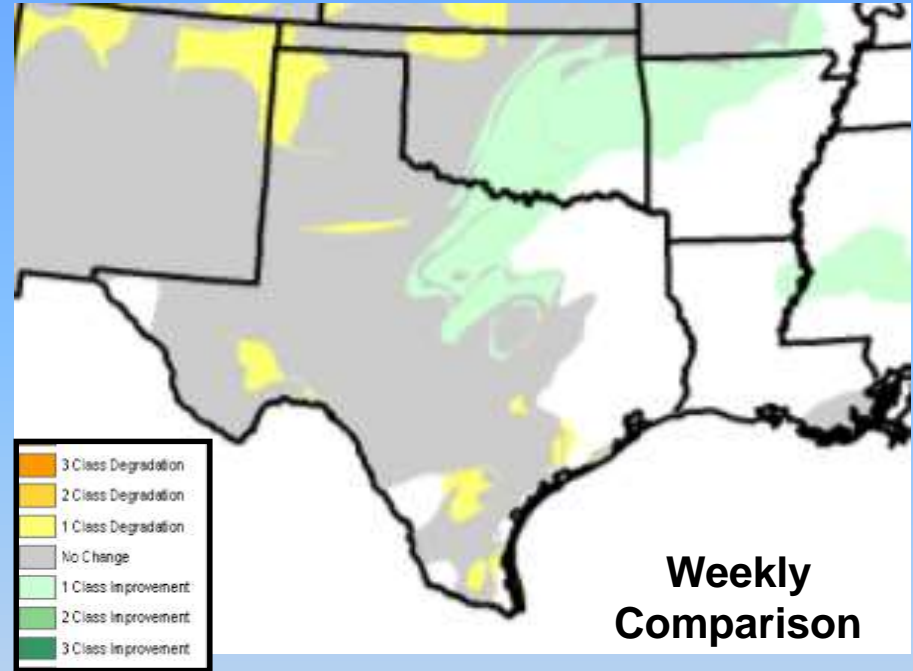
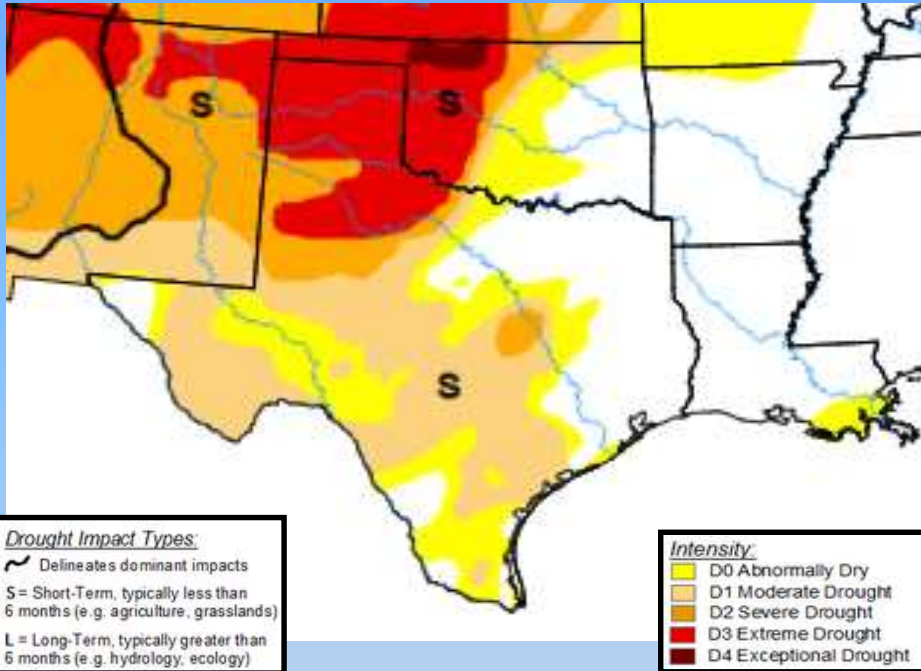


***Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.**



Drought Monitor Released March 8, 2018

Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, March 6, 2018



Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

| State | Current | Last Week | 3 Months Ago | 1 Year Ago |
|------------|---------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| Arkansas | 0.00% | 0.00% | 14.66% | 2.00% |
| Louisiana | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| Oklahoma | 34.45% | 32.91% | 0.78% | 3.17% |
| Texas | 14.16% | 11.47% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| New Mexico | 17.08% | 5.23% | 0.00% | 0.00% |

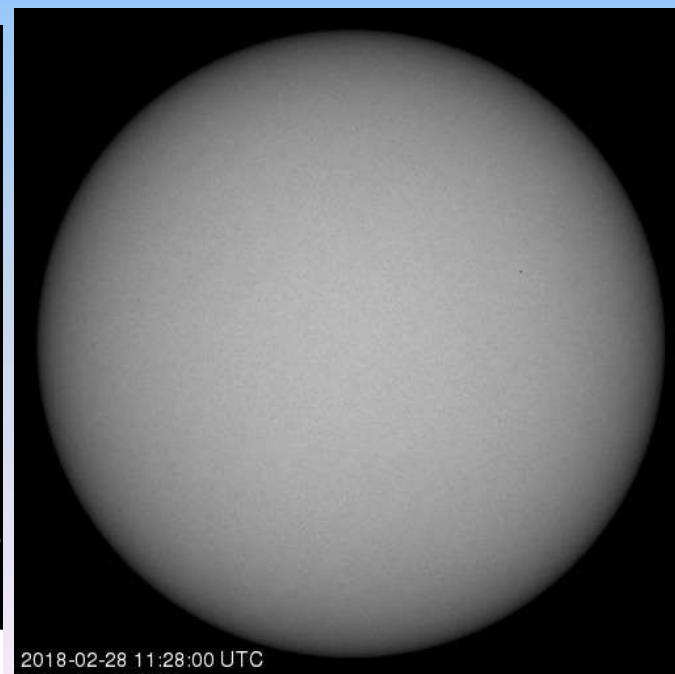
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Geomagnetic Storms | Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 2) | Quiet (Max Kp = 2) | Quiet (Max Kp = 2) |
| Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5) | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| Radio Blackout (R1-R2) | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| Radio Blackout (R3-R5) | 1% | 1% | 1% |



Information provided by:



National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747 ***New Direct Number**
E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov
Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh> (**NEW link!!**)

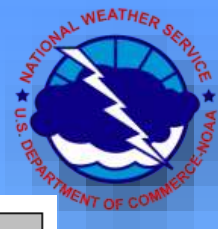
facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern>

twitter

@NWS_Southern_US https://twitter.com/NWS_Southern_US

The criteria for the color codes in our briefings is below, please provide any feedback to sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov.



| Weather "Threat" Matrix | | | |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|
| Color | Definition | Criteria | Example(s) |
| Green | Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines | Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX |
| Yellow | Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life | Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail |
| Orange | Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life | Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected |
| Red | Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life | Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue |
| Purple | Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life | Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms |